viability of the Corporation. The lending rates of HUDCO are therefore more concessional than other housing finance institutions. Lending norms including rates of interest for banks are prescribed by Reserve Bank of India. The lending rate for LIC are fixed by it. In respect of housing finance companies (HFCs) including LIC Housing Finance Limited, housing loan eligible for refinance from the National Housing Bank (NHB) are governed by the uniform norms and interest rates laid down by the National Housing Bank. These rates are exclusive of interest tax.

Financing pattern for HUDCO schemes and NHB refinance scheme are given in the Annexure. (See Appendix CLXIII, Annexure No. 29).

Creation and utilisation of irrigation potential

1586. SHRI R. T. GOPALAN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a gap between the creation and utilisation of irrigation potential in the country ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The cumulative gap between creation and utilisation of irrigation potential till the end of Seventh Plan Period was 8.32 million hectares.

(c) the Government is implementing the Command Area Development Programme for reducing the gap between potential created and utilised and has also taken a series of measures for improving water management practices to bridge the gap. In addition, the States have also been asked to re-appraise the figures of potential created in order to correct over-reporting, if any.

Subansiri Multipurpose project

1587. SHRI BHADRESWAR BURAGOHAIN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) what is the present position of the Subansiri Multipurpose project ;

(b) by when the construction of the project is likely to be started ; and

(c) whether Government of Arunachal Pradesh has agreed upon for the project ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) : (a) to (c) The Government of Arunachal Pradesh has not agreed for taking up the Project. It will be necessary to complete the on-going surveys and investigations and sanction the project. Before starting the construction work it will be also necessary to get the concurrence of the Arunachal Pradesh.

Flood forecast in Assam

1588. SHRI BHADRESWAR BURAGOHAIN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any steps have been taken by Government to forecast flood in Assam;

(b) whether the Central Water Commission has been modernised for this purpose ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) : (a) In addition to the existing net-work of 23 stations to forecast floods in Assam, it is proposed to set up 11 more stations in a phased manner.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Benefit to flood affected people in Assam

1589. SHRI BHADRESWAR BURAGOHAIN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any benefit has been derived by the flood affected people from the

raised platforms in the flood affected areas in Assam;

(b) if not, whether Government contemplate to discontinue this scheme in future; and

(c) if so, the areas benefited by the affected people?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) to (c) Raised platforms do provide relief to the society and are proposed to be continued as a flood proofing activity. The benefit derived have not been assessed by the State of Assam.

Corruption in Brahmani Subarnarekha division

1590. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the reports appearing in the Sun Times, Bhubaneswar dated 9th May, 1991 and 12th October, 1991 about alleged corruption in Brahmani Subarnarekha division and Eastern Rivers division of Bhubaneshwar of the Central Water Commission;

(b) whether any enquiry by CBI has been ordered, if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) A Chief Engineer of the Central Water Commission has been asked to investigate and submit report in the matter.

Sardar Sarover Project

1591. KUMARI ALIA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a working group was sent by the World Bank to review the construction work of Sardar Sarovar Project;

(b) whether Government have received the views of the team; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action contemplated by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) No working group was sent by the World Bank to review the construction work of Sardar Sarovar Project. However, an Independent Review Mission was commissioned by the Bank with an objective of getting an assessment of the Implementation of rehabilitation and resettlement of the displaced persons and environmental safeguards under the project.

(b) and (c) The Mission visited India during October/November, 1991 and February, 1992 and held detailed discussions with concerned State and Central Government Officers, Non-Government Organisations, agitationists, environmentalists etc. and visited the relocation villages vis-a-vis some villages coming under submergence, to collect the factual information. The views of the Mission will be known after it submits its report to the Bank.

Yamuna River Water Board

1592. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to establish a Yamuna River Water Board;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) by when the board is likely to be established;

(d) the main objectives and functions of the proposed river board; and

(e) whether the proposed river board would also take up the task of cleaning of Yamuna?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) to (d) In the inter-State meeting on Sharing of Yamuna Waters and other related issues held on 28th